



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **KC MAN SENTENCED FOR DISTRIBUTING CRACK COCAINE**

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Kansas City, Mo., man was sentenced in federal court today for distributing crack cocaine.

**Barry D. Purnell**, also known as Bear, 22, of Kansas City, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Ortrie D. Smith this morning to 14 years in federal prison without parole.

On Dec. 22, 2003, **Purnell** pleaded guilty to distributing crack cocaine in Jackson County, Mo. **Purnell** admitted that he distributed 27.6 grams of crack cocaine on Aug. 18, 2003, in Kansas City. He also admitted that he distributed crack cocaine again on Aug. 20 and 22, 2003.

On Aug. 26, 2003, law enforcement officers recovered 78.45 grams of crack cocaine and 657.07 grams of marijuana from **Purnell's** residence in Kansas City. Also recovered from the residence were several firearms, Graves said.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney W. Brent Powell. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration.

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This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

[www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow)